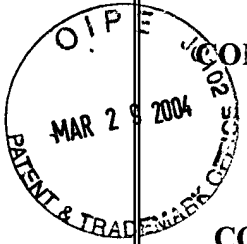


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RCE/1600 \$



REQUEST For CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL Address to: MAIL STOP RCE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. BOX 1450 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 (Revised 09/2003)	Application Number 09/842,466
	Filing Date April 26, 2001
	First Named Inventor: Kokubo
	Art Unit: 1615
	Examiner Name: Sheikh, Humera N
	Confirmation No.: 8005
	Attorney Docket No. 035576/233803
This is a request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application.	

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

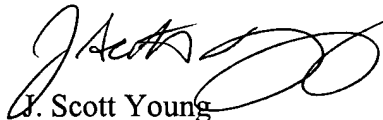
- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- ii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavits(s)/Declarations(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS); of cites listed on PTO Form 1449
- iv. ☐ Other

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of ___ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is **required** by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiencies, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
(\$770.00 large entity; \$385.00 small entity)
- ii. ☒ Extension of Time Fee (37 C.F. R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 880.00 enclosed

Respectfully submitted,


J. Scott Young
Registration No. 45,582

Customer No. 00826
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
Bank of America Plaza
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,
on March 25, 2004



Tamara Stevens